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Customer No. 22,8  
Attorney Docket No.: 07553.002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Masaaki HAGIHARA et al.

Serial No.: 10/030,656

Filed: January 11, 2002

For: ETCHING METHOD AND  
PLASMA PROCESSING  
METHOD

National Phase of PCT Application No. PCT/JP00/05624, filed August 23,  
2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231  
BOX: PCT

Sir:

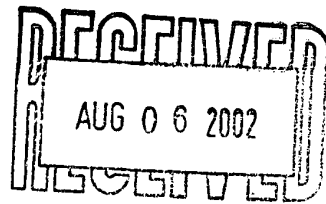
Group Art Unit: 1746

Examiner:

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**REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT**

Applicants are in receipt of a notice of Acceptance of Application under 35 U.S.C. 371 dated April 3, 2002, for the above application. It has customarily been the practice of the PCT branch to acknowledge the priority document when submitted by the applicant or the International Bureau (IB) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). However, the items listed on the Notice of Acceptance as having been received by the USPTO do not include the Priority Document.

Applicant is in receipt of Form PCT/IB/304 for this application (PCT/JP00/05624) which indicates that the priority document for this case (Japanese Patent Application No. 11-241427, filed August 27, 1999) was submitted or transmitted

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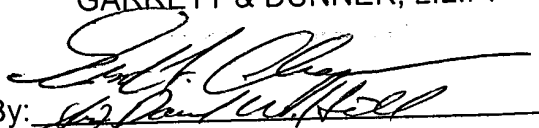
to the IB. A copy of this Notification Concerning Submission or Transmittal of Priority Document form is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the USPTO acknowledge receipt of the priority document for this patent application or advise applicant if a certified copy of the priority document must be filed to perfect the claim for priority in this national phase application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure  
DWH/FPD/gah

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